

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY DR. LAURENCE M. KLAUBER REGARDING THE TRIVIAL NAMES "ATROX" BAIRD & GIRARD, 1853 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION "CROTALUS ATROX") AND "POLYSTICTA" COPE, 1865 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION "CAUDISONA POLYSTICTA") RESPECTIVELY (CLASS REPTILIA, ORDER SQUAMATA)

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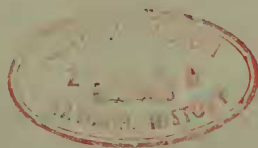
(Commission's references Z.N.(S.)523 and 524)

(Letter dated 28th April, 1952)

It does not appear to me that *Crotalus cinereus* Le Conte, 1852, is an available name, but that upon careful consideration other conclusion is possible has been well demonstrated. In such controversial matters a complete analysis of the various interpretations involved is not needed nearly as much as a simple establishment by the Commission of the proper name. In this case there can be no question that conservation of *atrox* would best serve nomenclatural stability.

There is less reason for uncertainty regarding availability of *multimaculata*, which clearly, in the interest of stability should be suppressed at the same time that *polystictus* is placed on the *Official List*.

Both the recommendations suggested by Dr. Klauber have much merit in eliminating possible causes for confusion, and commendable also is his prompt adoption of the long-needed procedure for conserving long-recognized names which by strict application of the rules would be changed. This is certainly one of the most important advances of nomenclatorial procedure in a good many years. We can now anticipate a real decrease in the alarming rate of name changes.



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By KARL P. SCHMIDT, D. DWIGHT DAVIS AND
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(Commission's references Z.N.(S.)523 and 524)

(Letter dated 29th April, 1952)

We wish to support the application of Dr. L. M. Klauber regarding the name *Crotalus atrox* versus *Crotalus cinereus* and *Crotalus polystictus* as against *Crotalus multimaculatus*.